

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 SAJ-01
/051 W

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R 281020Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO USIA WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8700

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USIAC

FOR: IOP, IPS, IEA, IOR

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: THAI GOVERNMENT CLOSES ANOTHER NEWSPAPER

REF: BANGKOK 2088 (C)

THAI POLICE JANUARY 28 ORDERED YET ANOTHER BANGKOK THAI-
LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER TO CLOSE DOWN. THIS TIME IT WAS THE MASS-CIRCULATION

(90,000 COPIES) DAO DARA YUK SIAM, ACCUSED OF CARRYING FALSE NEWS IN
ITS
JANUARY 23 ISSUE AS WELL AS A COLUMN MENTIONING PRIME MINISTER
THANIN KRAIVIXIEN'S FAMILY THAT COULD " LEAD TO MISUNDERSTANDINGS."

THE "FALSE NEWS", OVER A THREE- COLUMN PAGE-ONE HEAD
QUOTED WHAT THE PAPER DESCRIBED AS A "100 PERCENT
RELIABLE OFFICIAL (RTG) SOURCE" AS SAYING THAT " A GROUP OF TRAITORS"
WHICH FLED TO LAOS FOLLOWING THE OCTOBER 6 COUP HAS NOW FORMED A
GOVERNMENT IN EXILE AND PLANS TO SPLIT THAILAND INTO FOUR STATES.
THEY WOULD BE THE NORTHEREAST STATE, THE LANNA STATE IN NORTHERN
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THAILAND, THE SAIM STATE IN THE CENTRAL PORTION, AND PATTANI
STATE IN THE SOUTH.

PRIME MINISTER WOULD BE KHAM SING SRINOK, WHOM THE PAPER
CALLS FORMER VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE THAI SOCIALIST PARTY.

THE SECOND ITEM, A "LETTER TO THE EDITOR FROM A VILLAGE

SCOUT AT SIRACHA" DISCUSSES THE NOCTURNAL TRAVELS OF KHAMMING'S WIFE, AND SUGGESTS THAT THE TWO ARE "PLOTING SOMETHING".

IN REPLY, DAO SIAM DIRECTOR PRASAN MEEFUENGSAIT IGNORES KHAMMING AND COMPLAINS THAT DAO SIAM, DESPITE WORKING FOR "THE NATION, RELIGION AND MONARCHY" EVEN BEFORE THE COUP, IS ALWAYS THREATENED WITH CLOSURE, ONE ACTUAL CLOSURE ORDER, HE CONTINUES, CAME FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF A COLUMN DESCRIBING THANIN'S WIFE AS A "FARANG" (GENERAL TERM FOR WESTERNER) AND NOTING THAT HE LIKES TO EAT SPAGHETTI AND THAT HIS CHILDREN HAVE FARANG NAMES.

PRASAN ALSO COMPLAINS ABOUT THE CLOSURE OF DAILY NEWS, WHICH BECAME DAILY MAIL AND WHICH WAS ALSO CLOSED. (REFTTEL)

COMMENT:

DAO SIAM IS THE SECOND MAJOR NEWSPAPER ORDERED CLOSED THIS WEEK. IT IS REPORTED TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE OTHER LICENSE, AND MAY CONTINUE PUBLISHING, REGARDING THE CLOSURE ORDER AS REVOCATION OF ONLY ONE LICENSE. THE PAPER'S JANUARY 28 EDITIONS DID APPEAR, BUT HAD BEEN PRINTED BEFORE THE CLOSURE ORDER WAS ISSUED.

DAO SIAM RAN AFoul OF THE THANIN GOVERNMENT LAST NOVEMBER WHEN IT WAS ORDERED CLOSED FOR RUNNING A BANNER HEADLINE "POLICE CHIEF DISMISSED." THE PAPER CHANGED ITS NAME AND, USING ONE OF THE SEVERAL LICENSES IT THEN HAD, CONTINUED PUBLICATION. MCGINLEY

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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